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R 070700Z SEP 09
FM AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
TO RUCPDOC/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHINGTON DC
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INFO RUEHMS/AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

UNCLAS MUSCAT 000887

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: EAIR ECON EINV MU ETRD

SUBJECT: Embassy Advocacy Helps U.S. Business Secure Multi-Million Dollar Aircraft Hangar Design Deal

(U) On September 6, state owned English daily "Oman Observer" reported that U.S.-based engineering consulting firm Ghafari Associates was awarded a contract to design aircraft hangars for Muscat and Salalah international airports. The hangars will support aircraft maintenance, repair, and overhaul capabilities. The project will modernize the airport infrastructure and advance the Oman's tourism industry. In addition, the project is intended to attract new airlines to consider Muscat for their hub operations and aircraft maintenance. In securing the contract, Ghafari Associates used the advocacy services provided by the Embassy. Advocacy efforts included a letter from Ambassador Grappo highlighting the regional presence of Ghafari, and its emphasis on sustainable design.